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**HARTFORD MAYOR EDDIE PEREZ STRONGLY SUPPORTS TOUGH
NEW GUN LAW TO HELP KEEP ILLEGAL FIREARMS OFF THE
STREETS OF CITIES AND TOWNS**

(April 1, 2005)--- Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez is joining forces with state lawmakers and CT Against Gun Violence, in a strong show of support for new sweeping gun legislation.

The bill calls for the registration of the sales of all firearms--- not just handguns. It also calls for the reporting of lost and stolen firearms to police. Mayor Perez says, "Residents will be taking more responsibility for their guns."

At a news conference today at the Legislative Office Building, the Mayor shared an example of why this legislation is so important. On May 25, 2004, two undercover Hartford Police officers were shot while serving a drug warrant on Zion Street. The weapon used was a shotgun purchased in West Hartford in 1978.

Mayor Perez says, "That was the last record of that gun because, right now, there's no requirement for registration of the transfer of this kind of firearm."

Mayor Perez believes this kind of legal leverage will compliment the City's new Neighborhood Policing Plan. "With the legislature, the police, our towns and cities, and our fine citizens, we can all work together for a safer Connecticut."